



PAYSONAZ.GOV



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

JANUARY 26, 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



This document is developed and provided to help inform residents about what is happening with Town operations, services and programs; to answer frequently asked questions; and to encourage citizen participation in our local government. We aim to provide high quality programs and services to our residents in an effort to create a high quality of life. We welcome public comment and participation in the governance of our town. Residents are encouraged to join a council appointed board, commission or committee, speak at a council meeting during the public comment period, or fill out an online comment form. Town staff and I are honored to serve the residents of our town; we are committed to excellence and welcome you all to join us in the spirit of service.

-Troy Smith, Town Manager

TOWN MANAGER DEPARTMENT

Welcome Hannah Lusk, Management Analyst



Hannah is a 4th generation native of Payson and is very involved in advocating and volunteering in the local community. She has 2 young children who go to Payson public schools and most of her family still lives in the area.

She has a wealth of knowledge in many different areas due to her employment background as a Realtor (2008), The Rim Golf Club as their Food & Beverage Director (2012), Board president of Time Out, Inc (2022) and the founder/Owner of Hannah & Hooch (2018). Hannah also has 3 active businesses and knowledge in hospitality, statistics, analysis, government contracts, wholesale trade, commercial construction management, finance, and operations.

Hannah has been involved in numerous different focus groups, podcasts, published in the Payson Roundup and the March issue of Food & Beverage magazine's most inspiring entrepreneurs, a publication with over 2 million subscribers. Food & Beverage Magazine - March Issue 2021 by [Food & Beverage Magazine - Issuu](#).

Above all else, family is important to Hannah and raising her kids in a community that supports local and the youth, she wanted to become a part of the solution.

TOWN MANAGER DEPARTMENT

**Welcome Jeff Kopp,
Management Analyst**



Jeff Kopp started 12/12/2022 as a new Management Analyst for the Town of Payson. Jeff is an Arizona native with a B.S. in Public Administration from Northern Arizona University. Prior to operating his aerial photography & videography business for the past year, he previously spent 25 years in local government. Most notably as Recreation Coordinator for the City of Apache Junction where he oversaw Special Events, Facilities, Special Interest, Partnerships, Special Projects, and served as a liaison for the city. He likes to spend his free time with his two boys, traveling, and outside exploring Nature.

PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

**Welcome J.P. de la Montaigne,
Interim Parks and Recreation Director**



J.P. de la Montaigne was appointed Interim Director of the Parks and Recreation Department in January 2023. Prior to this Director position, he served as the Director of Community Services Department in Mountain View, California. Before joining the City of Mountain View, he had 28 years of experience as the Community Services Director for the City of Peoria, Arizona. J.P. graduated with a BS degree in Parks and Recreation Administration from Arizona State University. He has served as the President of Arizona Parks and Recreation Association, and was the President of the Cactus League Baseball Association for MLB Spring Training for six years. J.P. is an avid golfer, hiker, runner, loves to fish, camp and ski and coached all of his 4 children in many various sports.

PAYSON LIBRARY

PAYSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

328 N McLane Rd, Payson, AZ 85541; 928-474-9260

www.paysonaz.gov/departments/library.org

FEBRUARY 2023



Celebrating Achievements & Contributions of Black Americans

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 		Black History Month Presentation on Achievements & Contributions of Black Americans 1:00 pm Learn to Crochet Entire Family Welcome! Sign-up 1:30 pm	
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am		Valentine's Day Craft! 1:00 Learn to Crochet Entire Family Welcome! Sign-up! 1:30 pm	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am 	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am		House of Voodoo Reptile Sanctuary – Hands-on Meet & Greet animals! 1:00 pm Learn to Crochet Sign-up! 1:30 pm	Monster Manual – Extract DNA from a Strawberry! 12:00 Noon
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	LIBRARY CLOSED Presidents Day!	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am		Learn to Crochet Entire Family Welcome! Sign-up! 1:30 pm	
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am	Celebrate WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH March 	Discover Women History! 1:00 pm 	Solar Science – Build Solar Oven to Cook S'Mores & EAT! 12:00 Noon

STREETS DEPARTMENT

Although Christmas and the New Year are now behind us, our crew continues with winter operations. Plowing snow, trimming brush, and drainage mitigation along our Right of Ways (ROWs) continues to be our primary focus of operations this time of year. In the next month we will begin the transition to preventative maintenance of the Town's waterways and drainage areas.

Mid-Season Snowplowing



On an early morning, Leroy educates Andrew on how we plow snow in Payson.

STREETS DEPARTMENT



Before each anticipated storm, primary response vehicles are stowed in our garage to keep vehicles clean, warm and ready to respond. Here we see 10 of our standard plows and pickup trucks ready to go before a busy weekend in early January.

Right of Way (ROW) Maintenance

Although we often see winter as predominantly a season of snow and cold, our unique location in Arizona allows us to do some housekeeping during these mild months. Most vegetation is dormant this time of year which makes it ideal to do pruning and trimming, especially when we can see where the snow topples branches over, creating visual hazards at corners and straightaways. This is the time for us to do some preventative maintenance, cause minimal damage to trees and promote healthy vegetation growth in springtime along areas of the ROW.

STREETS DEPARTMENT



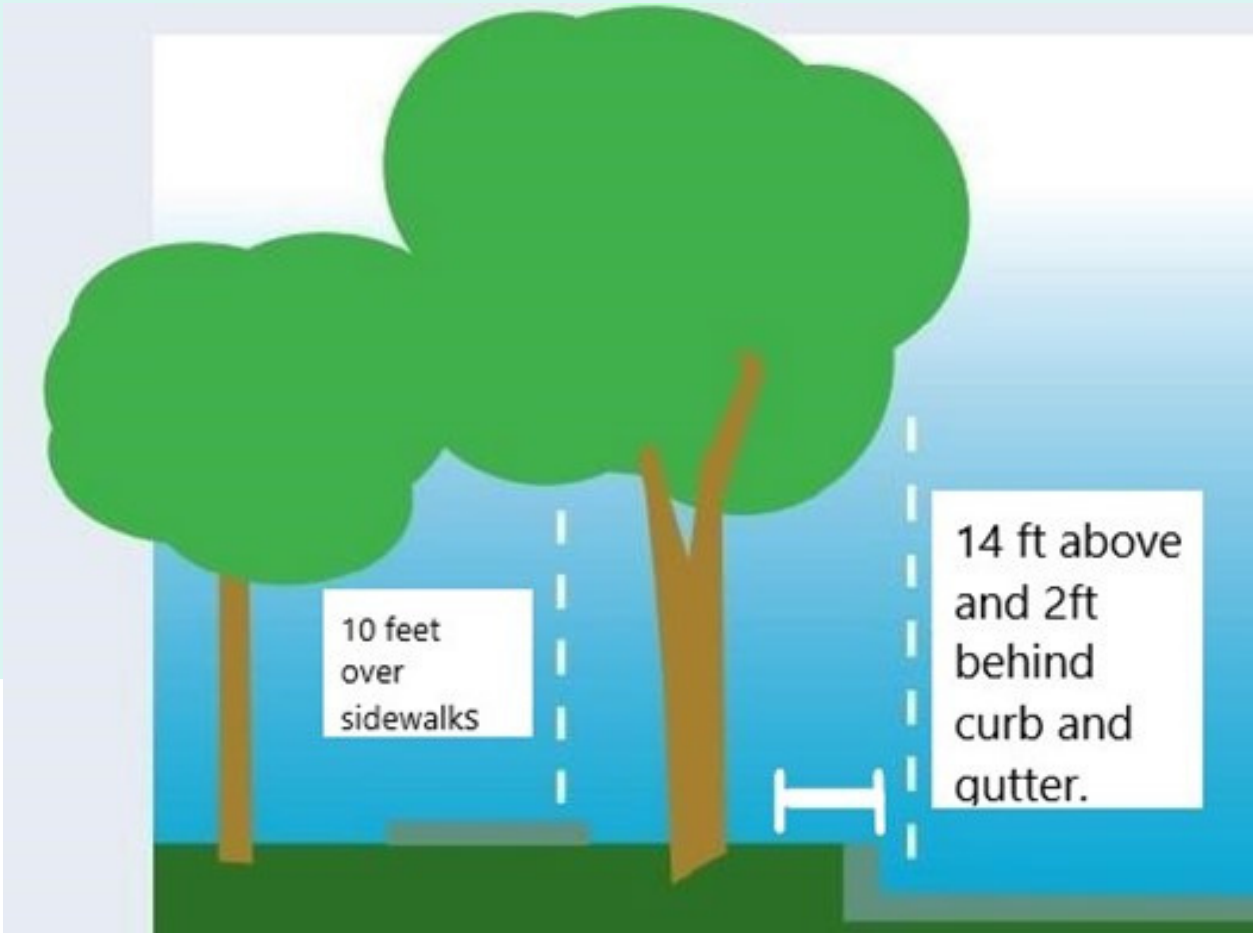
Crews pull Junipers that are causing visual obstruction to signs and oncoming motorists outside a critical corner atop Vista and Bulla near the Airport.

After clearance, the signs are now visible and the motorist has a clear view in front of them.



STREETS DEPARTMENT

Tree Maintenance, Protection and Removal



153.02(a);
153.30(a) TREE
PROTECTION
POLICY

153.32(e)
REMOVAL OF
DISEASED,
INFESTED OR
DANGEROUS
TREES

When weather is permissive, Street Maintenance Crews will be performing maintenance in areas alongside the roadway, where vegetation clearance is a concern. Town Code requires a clearance of 14 feet over the flow line of the curb and gutter or asphalt edge of road. Sidewalks must be cleared up to 10 feet above the surface. The Street department will be going throughout the community this winter season, taking advantage of the season to conduct this sort of clearing where we have identified areas of encroachment.

STREETS DEPARTMENT



Junipers bow over a common mailbox in town. These areas of low hanging vegetation are a hazard for postal carriers, snowplows, and all other motorists as they create a visual obstacle and hazard.

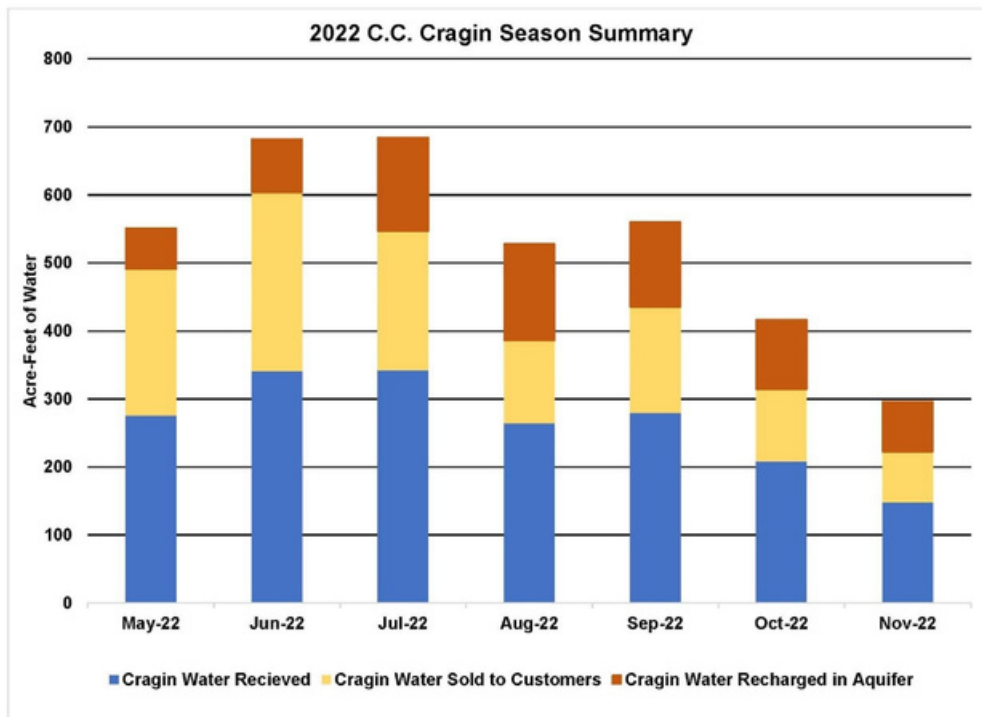


The snow topples a dead Ponderosa from private property falling it and blocking the entry to Pinon Circle. An operator determines the comms cable is de-energized and moves it aside so that the Street department can clear this hazard.

WATER DEPARTMENT

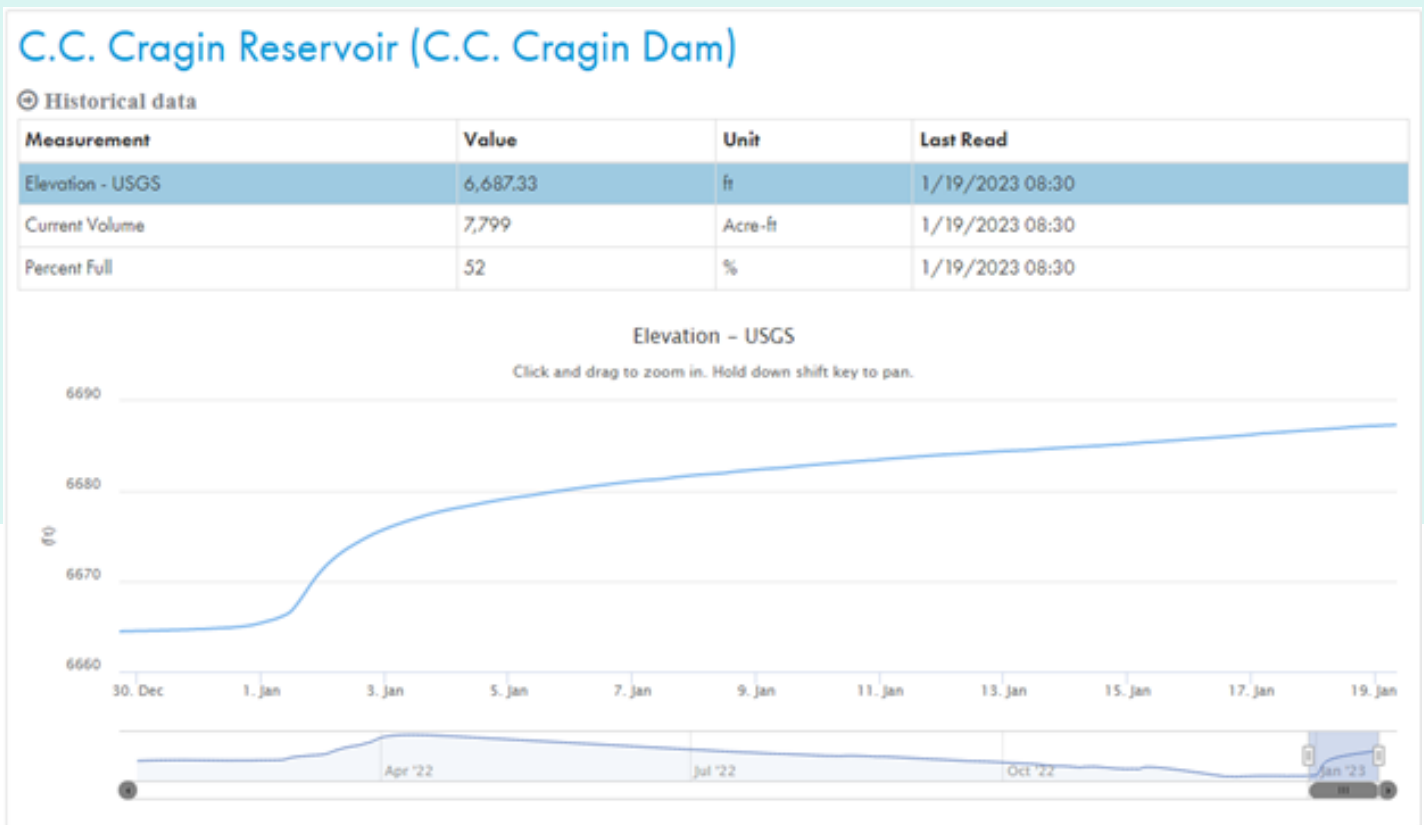
The 2022 C.C. Cragin Operating Season was another huge success for the Water Department. This year the C.C. Cragin Project activities began in May 2022 and ended in November 2022. The Town switched back to groundwater resources in late November 2022.

In 2022 the Water Department received 1,860 acre-feet of water from the C.C. Cragin reservoir, located about 18 miles north of Payson. The majority of the water was sold to customers, amounting to 1,141 acre-feet. Water that was not needed by customers was recharged, or injected, back into the aquifer utilizing the Town’s Aquifer Storage and Recovery well network. The Water Department recharged 719 acre-feet of water in the aquifer during the 2022 season, replenishing the water table for when groundwater resources are needed in drier seasons. The graph below shows monthly the water received from the C.C. Cragin Project (colored in blue), water sold to customers (colored in yellow), and water recharged back into the aquifer (colored in brown).



WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department is currently gearing up for the 2023 C.C. Cragin operating season and tracking reservoir storage levels. Currently the reservoir is at 52% full and rising according to the SRP Watershed Connection website <https://streamflow.watershedconnection.com/Home/Cragin>. The reservoir water surface elevation has risen by over 22 feet in 2023 already.



Based on the recent precipitation trends and water storage levels, we expect to receive ample amount of surface water from the C.C. Cragin Project for the 2023 Operating Season beginning in May.

End of Report

Next Report: February 9, 2023

